

ILULA ORPHAN PROGRAM (IOP)



NEWSLETTER – April 2015

Dear friends,

We would love to share with you the new events of which IOP Tanzania has been involved with over the month of April!

Enjoy reading!



In this newsletter:

- Easter at IOP (p.2)
- General assembly (p.3)
- Construction going on (p.4)
- YWCA-day (p.7)
- Berit's farewell (p.8)

EASTER AT IOP

Sunday the 4th of April it was Easter, a special day all over the world and thus at IOP. The center was decorated by staff, girls and volunteers and various activities took place on this day. It started outside the gate at 6:30 in the morning; there was a special Easter service. Different people held a speech; the older girls made an Easter quiz and the smaller girls sang a song. Many people attended the service and we all sang together.



The service



The breakfast

After the service there was a big breakfast inside. The kitchen staff had been preparing all the delicious food for all the attendants since 3 in the morning! After the breakfast everyone had to write his/her name on a piece of paper because a lottery was organized. Some people went home happily with tea, sugar or a lamp, but most people also went home with a beautiful Easter vase decorated by the girls and Kari.



Breakfast



The girls making the...



...decorations

After lunch the girls started the treasure hunt that the volunteers organized. The girls were supposed to find the stations in different places from IOP, from the library to the chicken house. They had to do various activities and answer different questions. They did very well and said they enjoyed it! After they all arrived back at the center, they received their treasure: a new t-shirt for each one of the girls! (←see front page)

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Interview with Ajolon Mgeveke)

I interviewed Ajolon because he was one of those who prepared for and assisted the General Assembly.

Tell the people about you.

My name is Ajolon, working with IOP in Pamoja Tuwalee as Monitoring and Evaluation officer, have been working here for almost two years now, completed my bachelor degree studies in Public Administration in Records and Archives Management at Mzumbe University in 2013, interestingly IOP have been supporting me in my studies for 11 years and now it has employed me, therefore working here is non of regret, is the place that I wanted to work before I go somewhere else and I still like to work here.

What is the general assembly and what is the purpose of it?

It is the annual meeting whereby the stakeholders of IOP discuss things about the focus of the organization, especially on the performance perspective. Employees, government leaders and other stakeholders meet to discuss performances of IOP during the past year. The purpose of this meeting is for the stakeholders to gain new information, meeting new members of the board and authorizing people to function, and also to evaluate the past year.

On the other hand the IOP General Assembly is the supreme decision making body in IOP empowered to approve major IOP decision including commenting o the IOP audited annual financial statement and annual narrative report as well as approving IOP constitutional amendments and approval of the new members of the board, just to mention few. The GA IOP is constitutional requirements.

How did the day go in general? Was everyone prepared?

The day went well. Everybody was prepared, there was a good program. The day went the way it was planned to go.

What are important things that have been talked about this time?

First of all we talked about the new members of the board and the people who retired as a member of the board of trustees. Another thing was the retirement of managing director Berit Skaare and the coming of the new managing director Edson Msigwa. Then there was an evaluation on the performance reports of the past year.

What did the performance reports show?

It shows that as the years goe on IOP is improving. The number of people that have been reached has increased this year. It shows also the new programs that are going on, the constructions and new plans for the coming years.



CONSTRUCTION GOING ON

The Lord's Hill High school reason for existence is to provide quality education for the betterment of the general community. For the sake of fulfilling the general IOP mission, qualified students who were send having been honoured with academic certificates; are employed to work at the school to enable it attain her goals.

REFLECTION OF EXISTING BUILDINGS

As of April 2015, the school has four permanent building structures in use:

1. The Lord's Hill High school cluster of classrooms
2. The Lord's Hill High school girls hostel
3. The Lord's Hill High school laboratory
4. The Lord's Hill High school kitchen

There is one temporally kitchen structure which was actually made to serve as a storage. The school is using it so far to serve students from going far from the school for search of food. Same serves time for students to study.

ON PROGRESSS STRUCTURES.

1. The Lord's Hill High School Multipurpose Hall

This is a hall that shall be used for conferences and examinations purposes. According to the Ministry for Education and Vocational Training of Tanzania; all National examinations should only be conducted in the hall; not in ordinary classrooms. For the school is on her fourth year since its start, there shall be National Examinations in October 2015. It's therefore mandatory for the school to have the structure ready when that time comes.

Through IOP donors and friends:- Kragero V Skole, Engebraten Secondary school, KnowIT and individuals; we have been able to start construction of the hall. Substructure is almost done; whereby strip foundations, slabs, columns, underground beams and masonry foundation are being done. This shall be a first phase contractual work whereby the mentioned activities above should be done.



Multipurpose Hall under construction

Construction by phases is due to shortage of funds. The building is estimated at Tshs 450,000,000/- which is equivalent to USD 243,243.24(1\$=Tshs 1,850/-). The house has so taken Tshs 131,000,000/- (Equivalent to USD 70,811.00).

2. THE LORD'S HILL HIGH SCHOOL HOSTEL

As mentioned above, the school has one boy's hostel. Girls students have temporarily been sleeping in two unoccupied classrooms. For the number has increased, more classes are being used. Girls students therefore have nowhere to sleep.

Kragero V Skole raised Tshs 23,000,000/- equivalent to USD 12,432.43 to enable the school build a hostel structure. The donation has taken the structure to the roofing stage. It is need of Tsh 83,416,300/- equivalent to USD 45,089.89 to complete the house.



Girls Hostel under construction

3. SOLLERUD KINDERGARTEN SCHOOL

This is one of the buildings that are in progress right now. Funded by the Solerud Kindergaten in Norway in collaboration with Y-Global; IOP Solerud preschool & oundation Kindergarten structure is at the substructure level. IOP has contracted Ngogo Engineering Company Limited to build the school to completion at a total contract price of Tshs 175,000,000/- equivalent to USD 94,594.59.

The activities completed so far include construction of the underground water tanks, excavation of foundation strips, blinding of foundations with plain concrete, construction of foundation walls, compaction amidst the foundations with an approved soil and laying blocks for walls.

There are other construction activities not covered within the contract price but form part of the school including landscaping, construction of toilet septic tanks and soak away pits, construction of elevated water tank, laying of paving blocks and play stations for children to mention but a few. These activities need additional funding for the school to function properly,

In close coordination of Mr. Osmund Ueland in Norway, IOP Solerud preschool & Kindergaten structure should be completed in September 2015. In full operation, the school shall accommodate 128 students. The school shall also be used as training and empower center for young single mother in the evenings.



IOP Sollerud Kindergarten School under construction

YWCA-day



“WORLD YWCA DAY; Celebration of Commemoration of World YWCA day in the Southern Highlands of Tanzania. Motto: **with love serve one another**”

Interview with YWCA Secretary (Lynnchristine Isote)

Can you tell me something about YWCA Ilula?

The Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA) of Ilula is a nonprofit membership organization which exists to develop the collective leadership of women and girls to achieve peace, dignity, justice and health for all. Ilula YWCA is one of 22 branches of YWCA Tanzania, located at Ilula in Kilolo District. The branch was established in 2012. Ilula YWCA works in partnership with Ilula Orphan Program.

Why do you celebrate the YWCA-day?

We celebrate it to promote YWCA, to tell the society about the existence of the YWCA network.

How do you celebrate YWCA-day?

World YWCA day has been celebrated in different ways. But talking about the 2015 celebration, it was conducted in Ilula YWCA as one branch among 5 branches in the Southern highlands of Tanzania. During the celebration different representatives from Tukuyu YWCA (3 persons), Mbozi YWCA (4), Mbeya City YWCA (5) and invited guests joined Ilula YWCA in celebrating the day. It was celebrated in different ways; marching down the road, attending different church services and a get together party. The get together party was accompanied with drama from youth, dancing groups from Millennium Artist group from Ilula and fundraising. There was nice food and drinks. People from different branches had time to show their products and exchange experiences on how to run branch activities.

BERIT'S 70TH BIRTHDAY AND RETIREMENT

Monday, the 27th of April was a very special day at IOP: it was Berit's 70th birthday. Two years ago she had decided that on this day she would retire. And those two years went faster than she had expected. The day was organized only by the staff members, and all their plans were kept a secret from Berit, so she was very surprised by this big party. The yard was filled with visitors; the Lord's Hill students, girls from Kids' Corner preschool, volunteers, old friends, and many others.



The MCs Justin Mhanga and Wasiwasi Kilave led us through the day which was filled with prayers from Pastor Upendo, the IOP song, songs from the girls and Kids' Corner, dances and a drama play by high school students, and gifts. Videos, pictures and greetings from all over the world were projected on a screen during the day. There were speeches from Irma and Tineke from IOP Germany, Elsbeth from IOP Norway, Einar, Wasiwasi, and of course Berit. She thanked everyone for the party and gave an inspirational speech. She ended in Swahili whereby she welcomed Edson as the new managing director, passing over the big shoes "that are still so good after 17 years of leadership at IOP. I'm giving them to Edson, hoping that they will be good for another 17 years." Edson accepted the shoes, and reminded us that we shouldn't compare him to Berit. "What we should do is to do what we have to do. I am not an angel, my job success will depend much on the team work and cooperation I am expecting from the employees on one side and continued support from IOP outside affiliated committees, the Church, the IOP Board of Trustees, different stakeholders and development partners worldwide on the other side."

Now Berit may be retired as managing director, but we won't have to miss her! From now on Berit will be the Chairperson of the IOP Board of Trustees.

The ceremony ended officially with prayers and then it was time to dance. We had a good time. Thank you everyone for the wonderful day and the nice gifts! Thank you Berit for creating this wonderful community that is IOP! Welcome Edson!



INITIATIVES

... And now we need **YOUR HELP!**

Do you have some **OLD PIECES OF FABRIC**
and you don't know what to do with them?
HERE at **IOP CENTER** they would be very useful for our girls!

Indeed they could be used as covers for our old chairs!

We eagerly await your reply!

IOP still has some projects that we need fundraising for. Some of these projects are:

- * Running expenses of the IOP center!
- * Finishing the new welding house!

If you would like more information about projects and/or sponsoring please contact:

IOP TANZANIA	Edson	edmsigwa@yahoo.com
IOP NORWAY	Ingunn	iop.norge@gmail.com
IOP NETHERLANDS	Annelies	info@iopnederland.nl
IOP LUXEMBOURG	Helen Klerk	Helen klerke@sunflower.lu
IOP USA	Stephanie	stephaniegrabero7@hotmail.com
IOP ITALY	Deborah and Massimo	iopitalia@gmail.com
IOP DENMARK	Emma Bonde + Lene Gobel	iop.denmark@gmail.com
IOP SWEDEN	Annica	annicarenberg@hotmail.com
IOP GERMANY	Irma and Jos	irma.jansen@arcor.de

*****GOD BLESS YOU - MUNGU AKUBARIKI *****

If you have any questions concerning new projects, please send an email to our IOP Managing Director
Edson Msigwa (edmsigwa@yahoo.com) or (edmsigwa@gmail.com)

and

Chairperson of IOP TZ Board of Trustees
Berit M. Skaare beritiop@hotmail.com
Prepared by Janna and Enicka
